

# Well-Posed Bayesian Geometric Inverse Problems Arising In Groundwater Flow

**Andrew Stuart**

*Mathematics Institute*  
The University of Warwick

Multiscale Inverse Problems, June 17th–19th, 2013  
Collaboration with Marco Iglesias (Warwick), Kui Lin (Fudan)  
Funded by EPSRC and ERC

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Forward And Inverse Problem
- 3 Bayesian Framework
- 4 MCMC Method
- 5 Numerical Results
- 6 Conclusions

# Outline

## 1 Introduction

## 2 Forward And Inverse Problem

## 3 Bayesian Framework

## 4 MCMC Method

## 5 Numerical Results

## 6 Conclusions

# Introduction

## References

-  D. A. White J. N. Carter.  
History matching on the Imperial College fault model using parallel tempering.  
*Computational Geosciences*, 17(2013) 43–65.
-  M.Iglesias, K. Lin and A.M. Stuart  
Well-posed Bayesian geometric inverse problems arising in groundwater flow.  
*In preparation.*

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 **Forward And Inverse Problem**
- 3 Bayesian Framework
- 4 MCMC Method
- 5 Numerical Results
- 6 Conclusions

# Forward And Inverse Problems

## Groundwater Flow Model

- pore pressure (head) :  $p(x)$
- permeability (hydraulic conductivity) :  $\kappa(x)$

## Single-Phase Darcy Flow:

find  $p \in H_0^1(D)$ , given  $\kappa \in L^\infty(D)$

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot (\kappa(x) \nabla p) &= f, \quad x \in D, \\ p &= 0, \quad x \in \partial D, \end{aligned}$$

**Inverse Problem:** find  $\kappa \in L^\infty(D)$ , given noisy  $y_j$

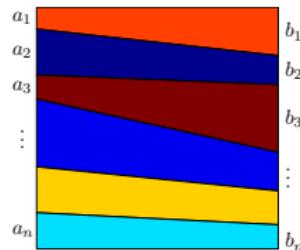
$$\begin{aligned} y_j &= \ell_j(p) + \eta_j, \\ \eta_j &\sim N(0, \gamma^2), \quad \ell_j \in H^{-1}(D). \end{aligned}$$

# Geometric Model

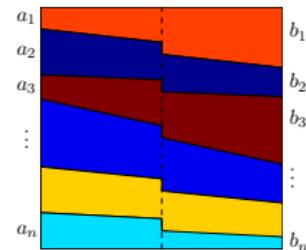
## Piecewise Constant Permeability

$$\kappa(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \kappa_i \chi_{D_i}(x),$$

where  $\bigcup_i D_i = D$  and  $D_i \cap D_j = \emptyset, \forall i \neq j$ .



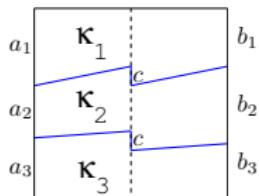
**Figure :** A multiple layers Model



**Figure :** A fault Model

# Forward and Observation Map

## Geometry



## parameterization

unknowns:  $u = (\kappa^T, a^T, b^T, c)^T$

permeability :  $u \rightarrow \kappa(x)$

## Forward Operator

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G} : \quad u &\longmapsto \kappa(x) \longmapsto p(x) \longmapsto y \\ \mathbb{R}^d &\longmapsto L^\infty(D) \longmapsto H_0^1(D) \longmapsto \mathbb{R}^J \end{aligned}$$

Find  $u$  from  $y$

$$y = \mathcal{G}(u) + \eta.$$

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Forward And Inverse Problem
- 3 Bayesian Framework
- 4 MCMC Method
- 5 Numerical Results
- 6 Conclusions

# Bayesian Approach

$$y = \mathcal{G}(u) + \eta, \quad \eta \sim N(0, \Gamma).$$

- **Prior** distribution on  $u$ :

$$\mu_0(du) = \mathbb{P}(du).$$

- **Negative log likelihood** on  $y|u$ :

$$\Phi(u; y) = \frac{1}{2} |y - \mathcal{G}(u)|_{\Gamma}^2,$$

where  $|\cdot|_{\Gamma} = |\Gamma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot|$ .

- **Posterior** distribution on  $u|y$ :

$$\mu^y(du) = \mathbb{P}(du|y).$$

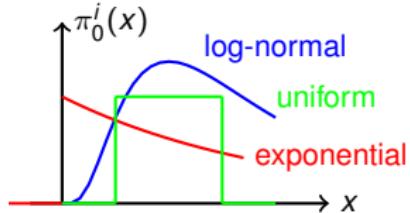
## Prior Modeling

### Geometric prior $\pi_0^G$ and $\pi_0^{slip}$

- $\pi_0^G$ :  $a, b \sim$  uniformly in  $A := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \mid \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i \leq 1, x_i \geq 0\}$ .
- $\pi_0^{slip}$ :  $c \sim$  uniformly in  $[-C, C]$ .
- $a, b, c$  are independent.

### Permeability prior $\pi_0^i$ on $\kappa_i$

- **log-normal**:  $\kappa_i = \exp(\xi_i)$ ,  $\xi_i$  drawn from Gaussian.
- **uniform**:  $\kappa_i$  drawn from ( $> 0$ ) uniform distribution.
- **exponential**:  $\kappa_i$  drawn from exponential distribution.



### Prior on $u \in U := (0, \infty)^n \times A^2 \times [-C, C]$

$$\pi_0(u) = \prod_{i=1}^n \pi_0^i(\kappa_i) \times \pi_0^G(a)\pi_0^G(b)\pi_0^{slip}(c).$$

## Well-Defined Posterior

### Theorem (Bayes' Theorem [4])

Assume that  $\Phi(u; y) : U \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is measurable and,

$$Z := \int_U \exp(-\Phi(u; y)) \mu_0(du) > 0$$

Then the conditional distribution  $\mu^y$  of  $u|y$  exists,  $\mu^y \ll \mu_0$  and

$$\frac{d\mu^y}{d\mu_0} = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-\Phi(u; y)).$$

We establish this theorem for our problem by proving continuity of  $\mathcal{G}$ , (and hence of  $\Phi(\cdot; y)$ ) on a set of full  $\mu_0$  measure.

## Continuity of $\mathcal{G}$

Applying **Bayes' Theorem** (see [3])

$\mathcal{G}$  is continuous on  $U$ ,  
 $\mu_0(U) = 1$  and  $Z > 0$

$\implies$

$$\mu^y \ll \mu_0$$

$$\frac{d\mu^y}{d\mu_0} = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-\Phi(u; y)).$$

- $u \rightarrow \kappa(x) \rightarrow p(x)$
- $u^\varepsilon \rightarrow \kappa^\varepsilon(x) \rightarrow p^\varepsilon(x)$

BUT

- $\kappa \in L^\infty(D) \rightarrow p \in H_0^1(D)$  is Lipschitz.
- $u \in \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \kappa \in L^r(D)$  continuous only for  $r < \infty$ .

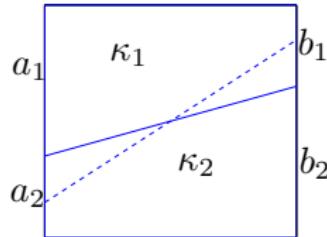
$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot (\kappa^\varepsilon(x) \nabla(p^\varepsilon - p)) &= \nabla \cdot ((\kappa^\varepsilon - \kappa) \nabla p), & x \in D \\ p^\varepsilon - p &= 0, & x \in \partial D. \end{aligned}$$

# Continuity of $\mathcal{G}$

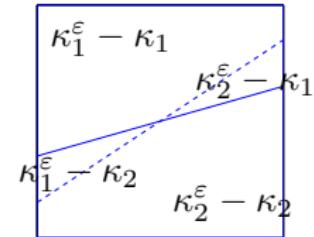
$$\begin{aligned} \|p^\varepsilon - p\|_V &\leq \frac{1}{\kappa_{min}} \left( \int_D |\kappa^\varepsilon - \kappa|^2 |\nabla p|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\kappa_{min}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |\kappa_i^\varepsilon - \kappa_i|^2 \int_{D_i^\varepsilon \cap D_i} |\nabla p|^2 dx + \sum_{i \neq j} |\kappa_i^\varepsilon - \kappa_j|^2 \int_{D_i^\varepsilon \cap D_j} |\nabla p|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

$$u \rightarrow u^\varepsilon$$

$$\kappa(x) \rightarrow \kappa^\varepsilon(x)$$



**Figure :**  $\kappa(x), \kappa^\varepsilon(x)$



**Figure :**  $\kappa^\varepsilon(x) - \kappa(x)$

# Well-Posedness of Posterior

- The Hellinger distance:

$$d_{\text{Hell}}(\mu, \mu') = \left( \frac{1}{2} \int_U \left( \sqrt{\frac{d\mu}{d\nu}} - \sqrt{\frac{d\mu'}{d\nu}} \right)^2 d\nu \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

- The Total Variation distance:

$$d_{\text{TV}}(\mu, \mu') = \frac{1}{2} \int_U \left| \frac{d\mu}{d\nu} - \frac{d\mu'}{d\nu} \right| d\nu.$$

- Relationship:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} d_{\text{TV}}(\mu, \mu') \leq d_{\text{Hell}}(\mu, \mu') \leq d_{\text{TV}}(\mu, \mu')^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

## Well-Posedness of Posterior

$\mu$  (resp  $\mu'$ ) the posterior corresponding to data  $y$  (resp.  $y'$ ).

### Theorem (Well-Posedness [3])

Assume that  $\max\{|y|, |y'|\} < r$ . Then there are  $C_i = C_i(r)$  such that:

(I)  $\kappa_i \sim \text{log-normal}$  or  $\kappa_i \sim \text{uniform}$ , then

$$d_{TV}(\mu, \mu') \leq C_1 |y - y'|, \quad d_{Hell}(\mu, \mu') \leq C_2 |y - y'|.$$

(II)  $\kappa_i \sim \text{exponential}$ , then

$$d_{TV}(\mu, \mu') \leq C_1 |y - y'|^\alpha, \quad d_{Hell}(\mu, \mu') \leq C_2 |y - y'|^{\frac{\alpha}{2}},$$

where  $0 < \alpha < 1$ .

# Well-Posedness of Posterior

**Sketch of proof:**

$$d_{TV}(\mu, \mu') \leq I_1 + I_2.$$

where

$$I_1 = \frac{1}{2Z} \int_U |\exp(-\Phi(u, y)) - \exp(-\Phi(u, y'))| d\mu_0(u),$$

$$I_2 = \frac{1}{2} |Z^{-1} - (Z')^{-1}| \int_U \exp(-\Phi(u, y')) d\mu_0(u).$$

And

$$I_2 \leq C I_1.$$

## Well-Posedness of Posterior

$$I_1 = \frac{1}{2Z} \int_U |\exp(-\Phi(u, y)) - \exp(-\Phi(u, y'))| d\mu_0(u)$$

$$|\exp(-\Phi(u, y)) - \exp(-\Phi(u, y'))| \leq |\Phi(u, y) - \Phi(u, y')| \leq M(r, u)|y - y'|.$$

(I): log-normal or uniform  $\mu_0$  on  $u$

$$\int_U |\Phi(u; y) - \Phi(u, y')| d\mu_0(u) \leq \int_U M(r, u) d\mu_0(u) |y - y'|.$$

(II): exponential  $\mu_0$  on  $u$

- $\int_{\{|\Phi(u; y) - \Phi(u, y')| \leq 1\}} |\Phi(u; y) - \Phi(u, y')|^{\alpha} d\mu_0 \leq \int_U M^{\alpha} d\mu_0 |y - y'|^{\alpha}.$
- $\mu_0(|\Phi(u; y) - \Phi(u, y')| > 1) \leq \int_U M^{\alpha} d\mu_0 |y - y'|^{\alpha}.$

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Forward And Inverse Problem
- 3 Bayesian Framework
- 4 MCMC Method
- 5 Numerical Results
- 6 Conclusions

# Metropolis Hasting Method

General Metropolis-Hasting Algorithm: to sample  $\pi(u)$ :

- ①  $k = 0$ , initialize  $u^{(0)}$ .
- ② Propose  $v \in \mathbb{R}^d$  from  $q(u^{(k)}, v)$ .
- ③ Set

$$u^{(k+1)} = \begin{cases} v & \text{with probability } a(u^{(k)}, v) \\ u^{(k)} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

- ④  $k \rightarrow k + 1$  and repeat 2.

Here

$$a(u, v) = \frac{\pi(v)q(v, u)}{\pi(u)q(u, v)} \wedge 1.$$

## Prior Reversible Proposal

To sample  $\pi(u) = \exp(-\Phi(u))\pi_0(u)$ :

- Choose  $q(u, v)$  s.t.

$$\pi_0(u)q(u, v) = \pi_0(v)q(v, u), \quad \forall u, v \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

- Then

$$\begin{aligned} a(u, v) &= \frac{\pi(v)q(v, u)}{\pi(u)q(u, v)} \wedge 1, \\ &= \frac{\pi_0(v) \exp(-\Phi(v))q(v, u)}{\pi_0(u) \exp(-\Phi(u))q(u, v)} \wedge 1, \\ &= \exp(\Phi(u) - \Phi(v)) \wedge 1. \end{aligned}$$

- Propose using prior; accept/reject according to model-data misfit.

## Two-Step Metropolis Hasting Method

Algorithm:

- ①  $k = 0$ , initialize  $u^{(0)} \in U$ .
- ② Draw  $w \in \mathbb{R}^d$  from  $p(u^{(k)}, w)$ .
- ③ Propose  $v \in U$  defined by

$$v = \begin{cases} w & w \in U \\ u^{(k)} & w \notin U \end{cases}.$$

- ④ Accept or reject  $v$ :

$$u^{(k+1)} = \begin{cases} v & \text{with probability } a(u^{(k)}, v) \\ u^{(k)} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

- ⑤  $k \rightarrow k + 1$  and repeat 2.

Here

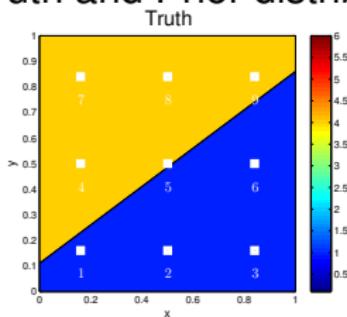
$$a(u, v) = \exp(\Phi(u; y) - \Phi(v; y)) \wedge 1.$$

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Forward And Inverse Problem
- 3 Bayesian Framework
- 4 MCMC Method
- 5 Numerical Results
- 6 Conclusions

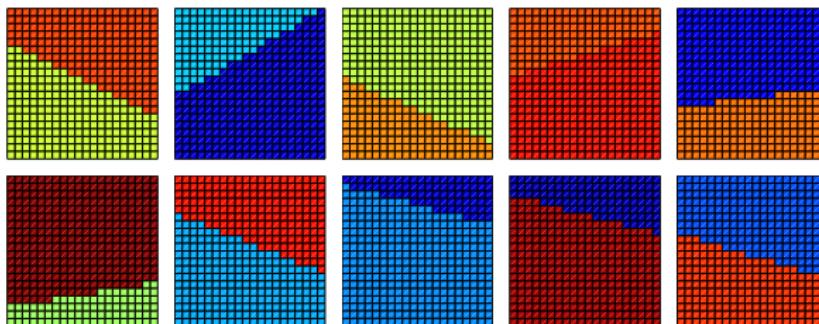
## Two Layers Model

- Truth and Prior distribution

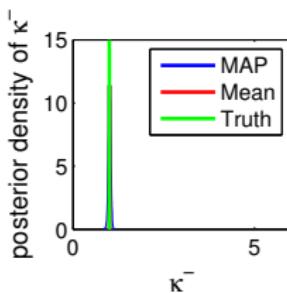
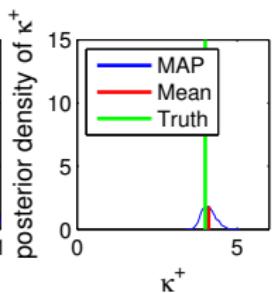
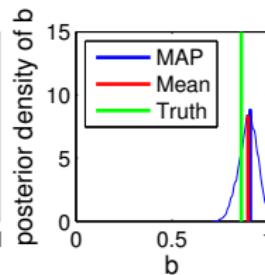
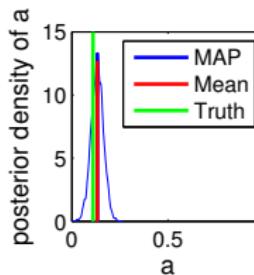
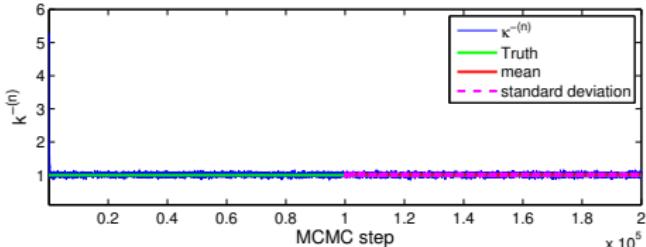
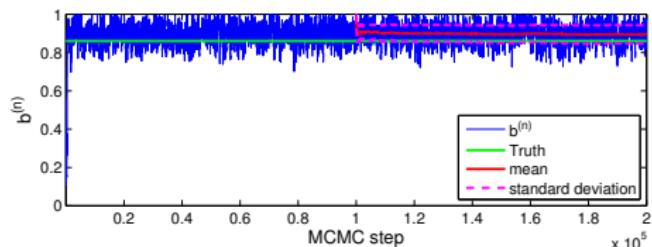
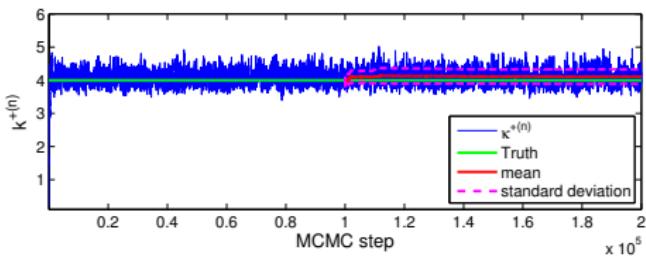
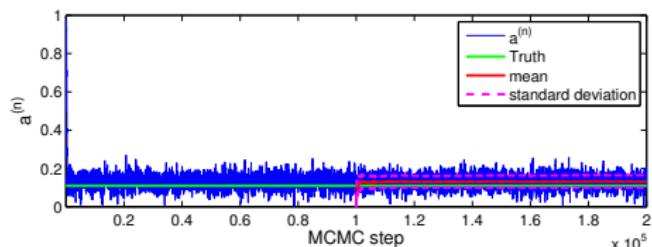


parameter	true value	prior distribution
$a$	0.11	$U[0, 1]$
$b$	0.86	$U[0, 1]$
$\kappa^+$	4	$U[0.1, 6]$ or $\exp(1)$
$\kappa^-$	1	$U[0.1, 6]$ or $\exp(1)$

- Random draws from prior

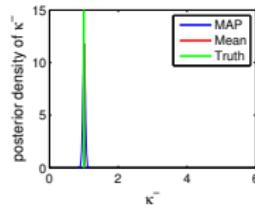
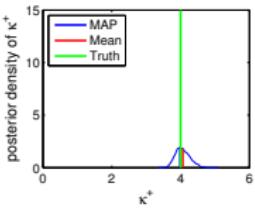
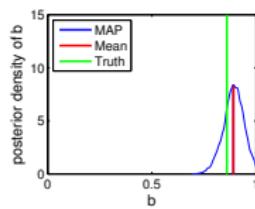
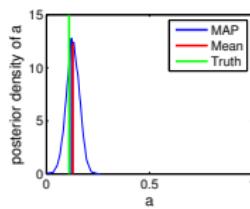
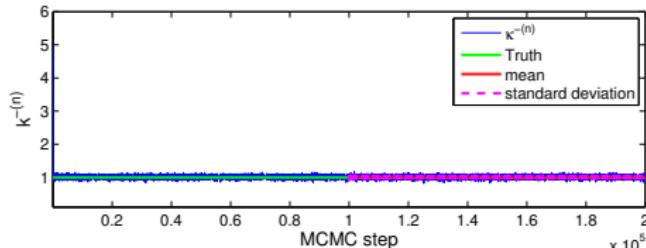
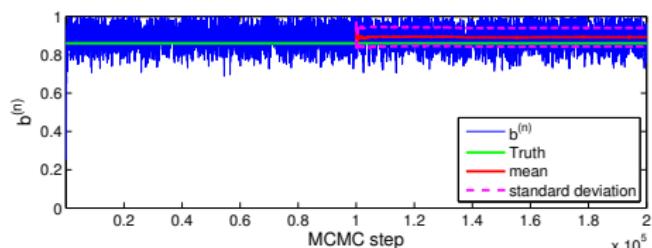
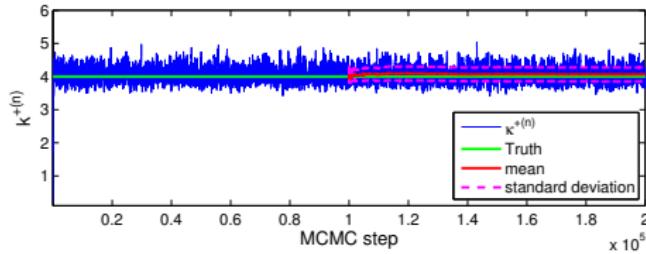
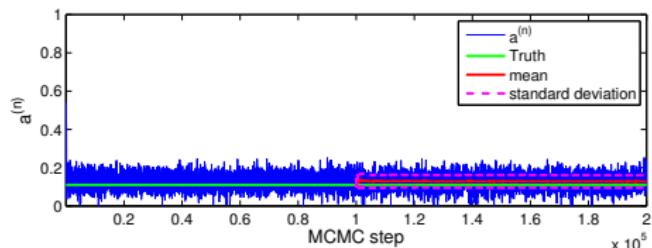


# Two Layers Model: Uniform Prior Permeability



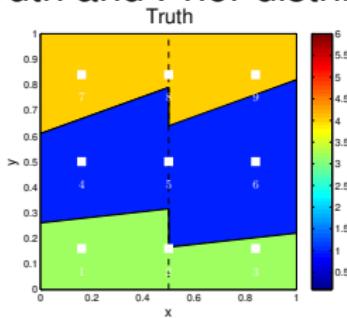
# Two Layers Model: Exponential Prior Permeability

- $\kappa^+, \kappa^- \sim \exp(\lambda)$ , where  $\lambda = 1$ .



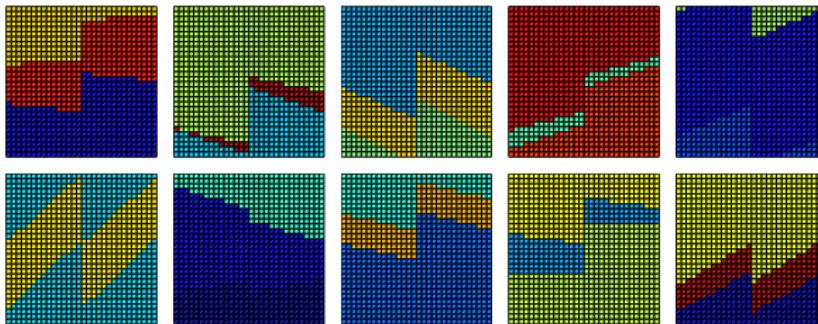
# Fault Model

- Truth and Prior distribution

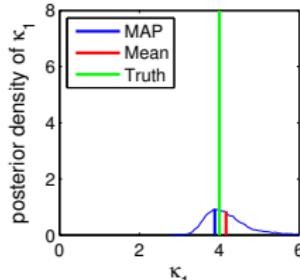
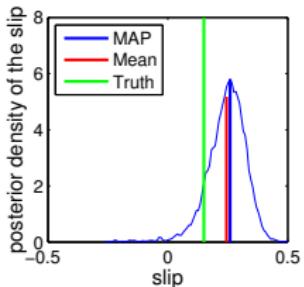
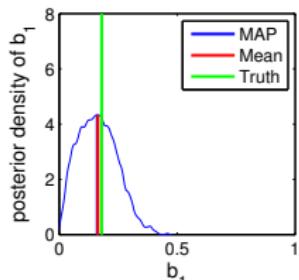
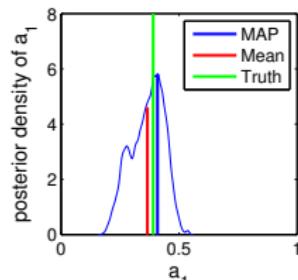
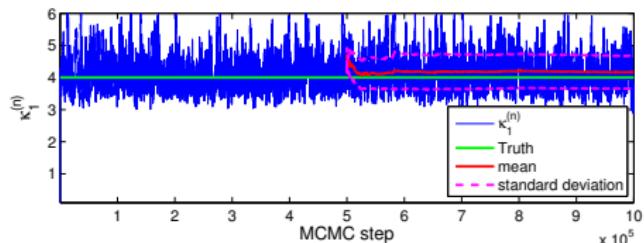
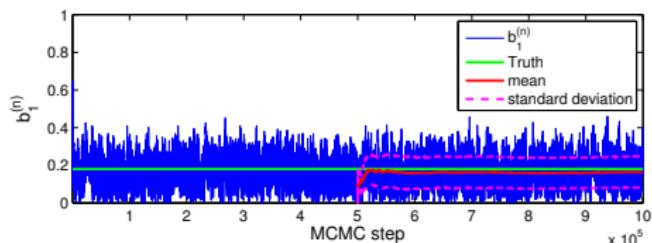
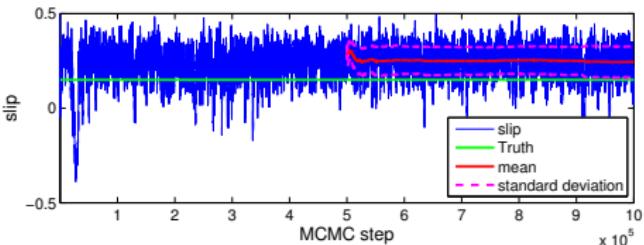
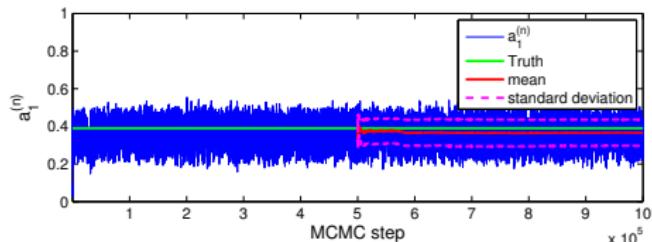


parameter	true value	prior distribution
$a_1$	0.39	$a \sim U(A)$
$a_2$	0.35	
$b_1$	0.18	$b \sim U(A)$
$b_2$	0.6	
$c$	0.15	$U[-0.5, 0.5]$
$\kappa_1$	4	$U[0.1, 6]$
$\kappa_2$	1	$U[0.1, 6]$
$\kappa_3$	1	$U[0.1, 6]$

- Random drawn from prior



# Fault Model



# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Forward And Inverse Problem
- 3 Bayesian Framework
- 4 MCMC Method
- 5 Numerical Results
- 6 Conclusions

# Conclusions

## What we have shown:

- Geometric permeability prior modeling
- Well-definedness of posterior distribution (continuity argument)
- Well-posedness of posterior distribution (not Lipschitz)
- A tailored Metropolis-Hastings method

## References

### References

-  D. A. White J. N. Carter.  
History matching on the Imperial College fault model using parallel tempering.  
*Computational Geosciences*, 17(2013) 43–65.
-  S.L.Cotter, G.O.Roberts, A.M. Stuart, and D. White.  
MCMC methods for functions: modifying old algorithms to make them faster.  
*Statistical Science*, To Appear, arXiv:1202.0709.
-  M.Iglesias, K.Lin and A.M.Stuart  
Well-Posed Bayesian Geometric Inverse Problems Arising In Groundwater Flow. *In preparation.*
-  A.M. Stuart.  
*The Bayesian Approach to Inverse Problems.*  
Lecture Notes, arXiv:1302.6989
-  A.M. Stuart.  
Inverse problems: a Bayesian perspective.  
*Acta Numerica*, 19(2010) 451–559.
-  S. Vollmer.  
*Dimension-Independent MCMC Sampling for Elliptic Inverse Problems with Non-Gaussian Priors*